

## **CHAPTER 40 COOPERATION**

### **General**

The Cooperative Fire Management Agreement dated March of 2005 and the Dillon Dispatch Center Operating Plan for 2010 provides for the establishment and continued operation of the Dillon Interagency Dispatch Center. DDC has the authority delegated from the Beaverhead-Deerlodge Forest Supervisor, the BLM Field Manager and the Central Land Office Area Manager to move personnel and equipment throughout the area covered by interagency agreements to meet fire preparedness and fire suppression needs. Line Officer authority for the Forest Supervisor is delegated to the Fire Staff Officer in the absence of the Forest Supervisor for the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest.

### **Cooperators**

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest  
Bureau of Land Management, Butte and Dillon Field Offices  
Montana Dept. of Natural Resource and Conservation  
Central Land Office  
South Western Land Office  
National Park Service, Big Hole Battlefield  
National Park Service, Grant-Kohrs Ranch  
Bureau of Reclamation, Dillon Office  
Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge  
Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Bannack State Park  
Beaverhead County  
Madison County  
Jefferson County

### **Federal Agencies**

The BLM (Dillon Field Office for Beaverhead and Madison Counties, Butte Field Office for the rest of the zone) will provide DDC with a map annually by May 1 that designates all areas requiring special suppression strategies and specify strategies necessary with respect to heavy equipment, engines, power tools, etc.

### **State/County**

#### **Department of Natural Resource and Conservation**

The Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest and the Department of Natural Resource & Conservation-Dillon Unit operate out of an interagency dispatch center (DDC) for the dispatch of initial attack resources to incidents on both agencies using the closest forces concept. Dillon Unit and the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest have a “12 hour – no charge” agreement, (see the annual operating plan for specifics)

An approved operation plan is functional between the Central Land Office and the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. Both agencies are a part of the Central Zone Support Dispatch organization, which is an additional operational unit out of the Dillon Interagency Dispatch Center located at the Beaverhead-Deerlodge Supervisor’s Office.

An approved operation plan is functional between the Southwest Lands Office and the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. Cooperative efforts are maintained in initial attack, support actions, helicopter operations and detection. Anaconda Unit and the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest have a “4 hour – no charge” agreement, (see the annual operating plan for specifics)

**Local Government Resources**

The Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest will work in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resource & Conservation and local government fire authorities for mobilization of local Government resources using NRCG Mobilization Guides when the need can be met by these resources.

**County Initial Attack - - Working Zones**

The initial attack working zone for “closest forces”, “12 hour - - no charge” are the Beaverhead, Madison and Jefferson County boundary lines. (see the annual operating plan for specifics)

Jefferson County shares wildland fire protection boundaries with the Helena National Forest and the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Montana DNRC Helena and Dillon Units, Helena Dispatch Center and Dillon Dispatch Center

DDC will provide timely incident status updates to Helena Dispatch Center on incidents that Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest is requested to respond to on Jefferson County protection.

The current agreement does not provide a “no charge time period” between Silver Bow, Granite, Powell or Deerlodge counties and the Beaverhead Deerlodge National Forest.